



CAPT. MARVE ADVENUES * unanature * unanture of the control of the





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HE WORTHLESS A Jon Jarl Adventure

THE huge mean sign, attached to a budy story in space, proclaimed its exciting

or Mars. The rest of the surn clarified mat-

A MILE! BARGAINS! SOLD BY JASPER There were fifty thousand sateroids in space

estate avenue, like Japony Largh, more selling the past, there were always eager people who they could live in ouset peace. In 2341 your could make that dream come tone and how look up at the stars with that grand and glory ous feeling of ownlow a part of the great

universe! At least, so read the laterature of denly picked up an SOS "Help! Innathun

Snapping into action, Jon consulted his

old X-333. It was a typical small one, about a half-mile wide, among a swarm of others, all like peas in a pod, and as hard to tell apart money but that the buyer had not up. Land.

one and jumping Jul. You reced Torward stead, he saw only amail ligards, about a foot long, awarming around the house as if seek-

"What? You're afraid of those little things?"

A terrified man's face peered out the window, "Yes, and look out! Ray-gun fire won't

Ion was skeptical until he himself fixed his

ray-gun at the crutters. To his horror, their hard scaly hides turned the blasts ande. Worse

And as several of them turned snarlingly ren for his ship. But he was not desecting

the tranged family in the hut. Jon swung his with his rocket discharges at the numeture with them, but it drove them away, and they "Are they g-gone" Jonsthan Peabody stepped out, shaken but relieved. He was a

"Oh come now, it isn't as had as all thet,"

It sen't that at all," said Jonathan Peabody darn asteroid We bought it from Jasper Larch

but instead it's all desert and swamp. It's no good from one end to the other, laster Larch has said us a worthless world?" "Worthless?" Inn soked "Are you sure? for

"None," returned Peabody wearily, "If you don't believe me. I'll take you around." After tellung the wife how to turn on the rockets and scare the brands off, Jon set out on a hika with Peabody. "Most asteroids have "Not a spack of good soil," Peabody said. "Nothing but dismal swampland on one side,

and on the other side, batran danart." "But some people find valuable minerals on their sateroids, even gold," Jon ventured

sighed hopelessly, "Not an atom of anything

asterold, and Ion was convinced. "Yes, st's a worthless world, all right, Pgabody." muttered brokenly, "We can't live here. Our life savings-dur hopes and dreams-all gone ... gons !"

Rage came over Jon Jarl. "Jasper Larch such this. Wait here, while I so see him about Recketing to Juno, Jon stormed into the office of Jasper Larch, who resembled a fat

tond behind his desk. "You've pulled many shady deals, Larch," Jon raged, "but the Pea-

impgined it was a nice place that's his fault, Larch was a cunning sharpster who could

can graw tron. Why doesn't Peabody hire them out-to eat up old tin-com and razor "Why, you fet, bloated-" Jon started, but then suddanly his voice changed, as a stunned look came over his face "jumping Jupiter] used to hunt down monsters. Arriving back at Asteroid X-233. Jon called out Peabody. "The lizards didn't attack while I was gone? Too bad, I was hoping they would."

"Never mind. Let's go hunting for them now," Jon said

"Hunting for them?" Peakedy was still more "No you sren't," contradicted Jon. He led

teeth. Those same teeth that could grind onen their scaly bides and tore them apart Ion shot a dozen before they stooped coming

"Look, Pashedy," Ion said, "Look at those sharp teath. They can gnaw through iron. Peabody breathed one word in trembling

ON was grinning ton, later, as he stepped into . Jasper Larch's office again. "You

body a worthless world after all. In fact, you sorverse. Look !" Jon slapped a small bag on the deak and dumned out the contents, Sparkling stones

"Right," nodded Jon. "All those lizards on rocks for food, you see So that makes Peabody a millionaire! Those teath are made of

THE END











































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